

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 SR-02 ORM-03 DPW-01 AID-20

IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 OMB-01

TRSE-00 RSR-01 /150 W

----- 010811

R 221605 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL BUKAVU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0163

INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION GENEVA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, PINS, CG, RW

SUBJECT: TUTSI REFUGEE

REF: BUKAVU 0066 AND 0078

1. TUTSI REFUGEES POPULATION TOOK A SUDDEN PLUNGE RECENTLY WHEN 140 LEFT GOMA FOR BUJUMBURA BY AIR. THIS LEAVES AN ESTIMATED 400 (INCLUDING RELIGIOUS) STILL IN GOMA WITH NUMBER MOUNTING SLOWLY AS ABOUT A DOZEN REFUGEES A DAY CROSS THE BORDER IN OR NEAR KISZYYI. IN BUKAVU NUMBER REMAINS STABLE AT ABOUT 50.

2. REPORTS BY CRS AND UNHCR INDICATE REFUGEES' ECONOMIC PLIGHT IMPROVING BECAUSE THEY APPEAR TO BE GETTING THROUGH FRONTIER POSTS WITH MORE MONEY AND PERSONAL EFFECTS THAN WAS CASE EARLIER.

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THIS SITUATION REFLECTED IN RECENT DEPARTURE WHERE ALL 140 MADE TRIP TO BURUNDI AT OWN EXPENSE.

3. UNHCR SATISFIED WITH REGISTRATION AND CARPENTER (SEE REFTEL 0078) MAY DEPART GOMA IN NEXT FEW DAYS LEAVING REGISTRATION IN HANDS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. HCR HAS REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CRS THAT WILL LEAVE CRS TO PROVIDE FOR REFUGEE NEEDS UNTIL LATE APRIL, AT WHICH POINT HCR WOULD TAKE OVER. CRS WITH 10,000 DOLLARS OR MORE GRANT APPROVED EXPECTS TO ASSIST REFUGEES THROUGH GOMA BISHOPRIC AT RATE OF 30 MAKUTA (\$0.60) PER DAY PER REFUGEE. BOTH AGENCIES PLAN STRAIGHT FINANCIAL AID AND BELIEVE THAT NO OTHER PROGRAM CALLED FOR AT THIS TIME. SITUATION IN SHARP CONTRAST WITH HUTU REFUGEES IN UVIRA AREA. GOMA'S REFUGEES ARE SMALL IN NUMBER AND RELATIVELY WELL EDUCATED.

4. ALL IN ALL REFUGEES' PROSPECTS LOOK BRIGHT. FACT THAT SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER SUCCESSFULLY MOVING INTO BUJUMBURA WILL PROBABLY BE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW IF MEANS EXIST. ADDITIONALLY, HIGH EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF REFUGEES MEANS THEY SHOULD MAKE OUT BETTER IN BURUNDI THAN THE LESS

FORTUNATE HUTUS IN UVIRA. INTERESTINGLY, ONLY TEN FAMILIES HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED AS PEASANT FARMERS, REMAINDER ARE SKILLED WORKERS OF ONE SORT OR ANOTHER.
MCNAMARA

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30 JUN 2005

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